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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/516,531

12/02/2004

Roger S. Levy

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EXAMINER

TRUONG, THANH K

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3721

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

05/07/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Interview Summary

Application No.

10/516,531

Applicant(s)

LEVY, ROGER S.

Examiner

Thanh K. Truong

Art Unit

3721

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) Jiwen Chen.

(3) _____.

(2) Thanh K. Truong.

(4) _____.

Date of Interview: 02 May 2007.

Type: a) ☒ Telephonic b) ☐ Video Conference
c) ☐ Personal [copy given to: 1) ☐ applicant 2) ☐ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) ☐ Yes e) ☒ No.

If Yes, brief description: _____.

Claim(s) discussed: 1,8,9 and 17.

Identification of prior art discussed: Gerard Joulin (1,568,220) and Kawaguchi et al. (4,640,081).

Agreement with respect to the claims f) ☐ was reached. g) ☐ was not reached. h) ☒ N/A.

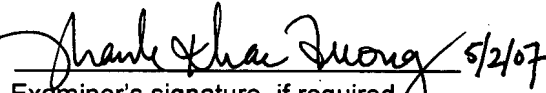
Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: See Continuation Sheet.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN A NON-EXTENDABLE PERIOD OF THE LONGER OF ONE MONTH OR THIRTY DAYS FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

THANH K. TRUONG
PRIMARY EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.


Examiner's signature, if required

Continuation of Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: Regarding the Gerard Joulin reference, the Applicant pointed out that Joulin does not disclose a bell connected to means for the suction of air from inside the bell, the bell being supported by movement means for its synchronous movement along the transport section of the conveyor near the entrance of the machine.

Regarding the Kawaguchi et al. reference, the Applicant argued that Kawaguchi et al. does not disclose the "modified atmosphere", because vacuum packaging is not qualified as the "modified atmosphere" packaging.

The examiner acknowledged the arguments and indicated that the validity of the arguments will be considered and examined carefully in the next office action. The examiner also pointed out that any modification to the atmosphere is read as "modified atmosphere", including vacuuming (less than the standard atmosphere). The examiner further indicates that in an apparatus claim, functional recitation is not being given the same weight as the claimed structure limitation.